

Remarks/Arguments:

This amendment is provided to cancel claims 13 and 25, and amend claims 1, 20, 26-28 and 31. However, in doing so, no new matter has been added or suggested. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-12, 14-24 and 26-38 will be pending, wherein claims 1 and 20 are independent.

For simplicity, the following comments, arguments and amendments are made in reference to the present application published as U.S. Patent Publication No. 2007/0274291 A1 of Diomelli (hereinafter Diomelli).

Rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. 103

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of claims 1-13, 17-28, 30, 31 and 35-38 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,313,617 of Malik et al. (hereinafter Malik) in view of newly cited U.S. Patent No. 6,785,266 of Swartz (hereinafter Swartz).

As noted by the Applicant's earlier response, the Malik reference describes a system and method for the management of communications and information resources of a user. To do so, the system and method provides a resource manager to perform a number of tasks such as controlling participation and tracking of user communications, and maintaining related information such as a message log, directory, calendar, and so forth (see Abstract). Such a communications and information resource (CIR) manager 10 can be implemented in or through the use of a user's personal computer 24 (see Fig. 2, and col. 2, lines 1-2), and can perform a list of communication related services (see col. 2, lines 60-67 to col. 3, lines 1-6).

The CIR manager of the Malik reference is described as a computer program provided with and executed upon a user's computer (see col. 4, lines 62-67 to col. 5, lines 1-11), that can be linked to a PC, PSTN 38 and/or the Internet 26 (see again, Fig. 2). Specifically, the CIR manager is described as linked or otherwise in communication with other PCs, PSTN and/or Internet networks (see for example, col. 10, lines 19-45, and Fig. 2). The application program of the CIR manager is described in limited detail at col. 11, lines 64-67 to col. 12, lines 1-6, and col. 14, lines 26-32. One feature of the application program of such a CIR

manager is unified messaging (see col. 16, lines 43-46), and data conversions from a native format to a format used by the user (see col. 25, lines 45-50).

However, the system and method of the Malik reference substantially concerns a software (CIR) dedicated to help a *single user* manage the communications related to the communications devices (both data and voice) owning *only to that user*. In contrast, the Applicant recites the system and method wherein the Communications Devices and/or Terminals can be those associated with different users, located at any number of different locations, and which are able to connect, by the internet and a standard browser, to a server (27). Further, the Malik reference does not disclose the managing of the communications by using an Internet Web Browser.

Accordingly, the Examiner points to newly cited Swartz as allegedly describing such a system and method wherein the Communications Devices and/or Terminals can be those associated with different users, located at a number of different locations, and which are able to connect, by the internet and a standard browser, to a server, and where management of telephone communications is achieved by using an Internet Web Browser and the server.

Swartz describes a system and method for linking subscribers with a host services computer, and wherein web browser software running on the subscriber can be used to direct certain telephone operations by the host services computer.

However, the Applicant has amended the independent claims to recite subject matter found in dependent claims 13 and 25. Specifically, the Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 20 to recite an exemplary network server which further comprises a single database in which data pertaining to the communications effected through any Communications Device and/or Terminal is logged and stored. The Applicant has further amended independent claims 1 and 20 to recite such a system and method wherein *each authorized user* can access the *collected data* for grouping or other statistical analysis. This is not new matter, and is described elsewhere in the specification (see for example, paragraph 26). That is, the single database is configured to store data pertaining to the communications effected through any Communications Device and/or Terminal, and each authorized user can

access the collected data, including the data of the remaining users, for grouping or other statistical analysis.

In regard to such features, the Examiner points to the PC 24 of Malik. However, as noted above, the Malik reference substantially concerns a software (CIR) dedicated to help a *single user* manage the communications related to the communications devices (both data and voice) owning *only to that user*. That is, the system and method of Malik at most describes a database of a single user (see col. 17, lines 1-18), requiring duplication for multiple users. In contrast, the Applicant recites the system and method wherein the server comprises a single database in which data pertaining to the communications effected through any Communications Device and/or Terminal is logged and stored, and not simply stored at each user. Further, the Applicant recites a system and method wherein each authorized user can access the collected data, including the data of the remaining users, for grouping or other statistical analysis. Such a system and method is not described by the single-user database, or single-user database access, allegedly described by Malik.

Further, although not cited as disclosing the amendment material, the Swartz reference describes the storage of information at the host services computer, and which is available to the user (see col. 10, lines 30-38). However, the system and method of Swartz describes the storage and access of user personal information. That is, the system and method of Swartz at most, allegedly describes the storage of personal information, and not data pertaining to the communications effected through any Communications Device and/or Terminal. Further, access to such information appears to be limited to user access to single-user, personal information, and not access to the collected data, including the data of the remaining users, for grouping or other statistical analysis.

Dependent claims 2-12, 17-19, 21-24, 26-28, 30, 31 and 35-38 are believed to be similarly patentable over the combined teachings of Malik and Swartz.

As to dependent claims 9, 22 and 30, the Examiner points to Figs. 3, 4 and 8 of Malik as describing the recited elements. However, the interfaces of Malik fail to recite the entire array of channels as recited in claim 30. For example, some of the interfaces of the Malik

reference are simply provided to link PC 50 with keyboards, mouse and disk drivers. The linking interfaces are limited to the network interface and serial port interface, shown linking PC 50 with remote computer 100 (see again, Fig. 3). In doing so, the system and method of the Malik reference fail to describe the channels as recited by the Applicant in claim 30.

Such a system and method permits the server to support communications, route outbound communications towards the communications channels (16-22) on the basis of the communications protocols stored in the storage section (23), receive inbound communications through the related communications channel and then route them to the addressee Communications Device and/or Terminal in function of the settings associated with the addressee, as stored in the storage section (23). Further, such a system and method permits the server to support communications, route outbound communications towards the communications channels (16-22) via the different couplings of each (see for example, the couplings between (16-22) and mobile network (25), fixed network (26), and LAN network (1). As such, the provision of the interfaces as described by Malik, fail to describe the system and method as recited having the communications channels (16-22).

Further, as to dependent claims 9 and 22, the server is provided with the logical-functional Communications Kernel section (15) dedicated to supporting these communications, route outbound communications towards the communications channels (16-22) on the basis of the communications protocols stored in the storage section (23), receive inbound communications through the related communications channel and then route them to the addressee Communications Device and/or Terminal in function of the settings associated with the addressee, as stored in the storage section (23) and at the same time, the CK logical-functional section (15) activates the WS (Web Services) logical-functional section (14). Accordingly, the system and method permits the server to support communications, and, in particular, to route outbound communications towards the communications channels 16-22, using specific communication protocols and settings stored in the storage section 23, which are not disclosed by Malik nor by Swartz.

The Examiner points to Figs. 4 and 8 of Malik and the description of the CIR manager at col. 4, line 62 to col. 5, line 11. However, as noted above, the interfaces of Malik fail to

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recite the entire array of communications channels 16-22 as recited and the corresponding CIR manager and GUI provided are limited to the same extent. In doing so, the CIR manager of the Malik reference fail to describe the receipt and routing control and management as recited by the Applicant in claims 9 and 22.

Dependent claims 2-12, 17-19, 21-24, 26-28, 30, 31, and 35-38 depend from one of independent claims 1 or 20. These dependent claims are thereby patentable over Malik and Swartz for the same reasons presented in connection with claims 1 and 20, supra. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of these dependent claims is warranted for the same reasons.

The Examiner has also maintained the rejection of claims 14-16 and 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Malik in view of Swartz and U.S. Patent No. 6,141,411 of Robinson et al., and has maintained the rejection of claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Malik in view of Swartz and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0041048 of Balasuriya (hereinafter Balasuriya).

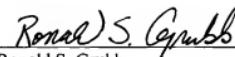
Dependent claims 14-16, 29 and 32-34 depend from one of independent claims 1 or 20. These dependent claims are thereby patentable over Malik and Swartz for the same reasons presented in connection with claims 1 and 20, supra. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of these dependent claims is warranted for the same reasons.

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Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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